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**Bloomberg
Environment**

**ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY
REPORT**

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Highlights

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LEADING THE NEWS

[California to Ban Pesticide Chlorpyrifos](#)

By Adam Allington

California, the nation's largest and most-productive agricultural state, announced plans May 8 to ban the widely used pesticide chlorpyrifos.

[Ban Asbestos Now, Democrats on House Committee Tell EPA \(1\)](#)

By Pat Rizzuto

Asbestos must be banned to prevent more deaths, Democrats on a House committee said May 8.

[States Resist EPA Move on Spending for Air Pollution Monitoring \(1\)](#)

By Amena H. Saiyid

States are pushing back against EPA attempts to wean them off of no-strings attached grants to monitor fine airborne particle pollution, according to two national nonprofits representing state and local air quality agencies.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

House Moves Energy, Environment Spending, But Senate Slower (1)

By Dean Scott

The House is making headway on spending bills for the EPA and the Energy and Interior departments, with appropriators setting broad budget numbers for several funding measures slated for committee approval May 8.

Interior Chief Says He Will Be Cleared in Federal Ethics Probe

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

Interior Secretary David Bernhardt said Tuesday he was "confident" an ongoing federal probe will exonerate him of ethical misconduct allegations.

Exelon to Shut Three Mile Island as Nuke Bill Founders (1)

By Jim Efstathiou Jr.

Exelon Corp. says it's moving forward with plans to close the Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania after a bid to bail out struggling reactors has failed to advance in the state legislature.

Forest Service Not to Blame for Goats Roaming Research Area

By Porter Wells

Environmental group Grand Canyon Trust lost its bid May 7 to hold the U.S. Forest Service accountable for the release of wild mountain goats into the Mt. Peale Research Natural Area.

Clean Energy Bill Would Be Neutral on Sources, Sponsors Say (1)

By Tiffany Stecker

Democratic lawmakers are proposing a bill to wean the U.S. off earth-warming emissions without favoring renewable energy sources over older, more reliable options like nuclear energy.

Warning Rural U.S. at Risk, Lawmakers Seek Biofuel Waiver Halt

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy

Thirty-five U.S. lawmakers are urging the EPA to stop exempting refineries from federal biofuel mandates, calling the practice “a betrayal of our rural communities” that threatens the U.S. agricultural sector.

Consol Plans Coal Mine in West Virginia to Supply Steel Industry

By Will Wade

Consol Energy Inc. is developing a new mine in West Virginia that will supply coal to U.S. steel producers.

Offshore Wind Could Power Oil Platforms and Solidify Industries

By Bobby Magill

Offshore wind farms could eventually provide electricity for offshore oil platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, according to new research.

Exxon CEO Seeks Climate Change Fix in Pact With National Labs

By Kevin Crowley

For Darren Woods, Exxon Mobil Corp.'s chief executive officer, the answer to climate change won't be found in solar panels or high-profile global accords, but rather in a U.S. government laboratory.

Berkshire Takes Tax Hit as Victim of 'Ponzi-Type' Solar Scheme **(1)**

By Katherine Chiglinsky and Brian Eckhouse

Berkshire Hathaway Inc. thinks it was duped.

CLIMATE

Ways and Means Announces Climate Change Hearing

By Colleen Murphy

The House Ways and Means Committee will hold a May 15 hearing on the economic and health consequences of climate change.

AIR, WATER, AND WASTE

Few Missouri River Levees Intact After Midwest Flooding (1)

By David Schultz

Very few levees remain fully intact across a large stretch of the Missouri River after this spring's devastating flooding, according to the head of the Army Corps of Engineers.

ConocoPhillips Must Face Homeowners' Water Contamination Suit

By Peter Hayes

ConocoPhillips Co. must face public nuisance claims by dozens of Oklahoma homeowners over drinking water allegedly contaminated by oil and gas wells dating back to the 1920s, the Western District of Oklahoma ruled.

Drummond Co. Can't Shake Off Black Warrior River Water Act Suit

By Peter Hayes

Mining company Drummond Co. failed to quash a Clean Water Act citizen suit alleging it is discharging pollutants from an abandoned coal mine into a branch of the Black Warrior River in Alabama.

INSIGHT

INSIGHT: Kirkland & Ellis Teaches Associates Evidence Through 'Learning by Doing'

Courtroom skills improve a litigator's results across the board, but how can young lawyers with no trial experience develop these skills? In the first of a series on associate training, Kirkland & Ellis partners explain how they teach skills on evidence—handling evidentiary issues in depositions, motion in limine strategy, and objections at trial.

FROM THE STATES

Seattle Enacts Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Law

By Paul Shukovsky

New construction in Seattle will be required to provide electric vehicle charging infrastructure in shared parking spaces under an ordinance signed into law by Mayor Jenny Durkan (D) May 8.

Sterigenics Tries New Venue to Reopen Sterilization Plant (1)

By Stephen Joyce

Sterigenics U.S. LLC is trying to win in state court what it couldn't in federal court: an order allowing it to reopen its Willowbrook, Ill., sterilization facility.

Activists' Legal Defense of Lake Erie 'Natural Right' Law Denied

By Alex Ebert

A federal court has blocked environmental activists from mounting a legal defense of a Toledo law that gives residents the ability to sue Lake Erie polluters.

Get the Lead Out of Jewelry, California Attorney General Says

By Pat Rizzuto

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra announced settlements May 7 with five companies alleged to have sold jewelry with excess lead and cadmium.

AROUND THE GLOBE

EU to Look Again at Disputed Guidance on Pesticides and Bees

By Stephen Gardner

The European Union has started a process to rethink the way it assesses how pesticides may hurt bees.

Norway to Fast Track Single-Use Plastics Ban

By Marcus Hoy

Disposable plastic items like cutlery, plates, and straws will be banned within twelve months, Norway's Climate and Environment Ministry said.

Jobs, Land Issues Eclipse Power Woes in South African Election

By Wachira Kigotho

Unplanned outages and unscheduled maintenance by the South African Electricity Supply Commission Eskom are being overshadowed by jobs and land use promises in the run-up to the nation's May 8 general election.

Elephant-Rich Africa Nations Demand Right to Resume Ivory Sales

By Antony Sguazzin

Five southern African nations that are home to most of the world's elephants demanded the right to sell ivory, arguing that people who live alongside the animals must be allowed to benefit from them.

EU's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Dipped Slightly in 2018 (1)

By Stephen Gardner

European Union countries burned through less coal, oil, and gas in 2018, recording a 2.5% reduction in greenhouse gases from energy use, according to the bloc's in-house statistics body.

China Dawdles on Carbon Trading as Reshuffle Slows Development

By Bloomberg News

A bureaucratic reshuffle has left China months behind in its preparation to launch a national carbon market, potentially slowing efforts to restrain greenhouse gas emissions by the world's biggest polluter.

Australia's Pension Funds Adopt ESG Mantle as Politicians Balk

By Matthew Burgess

Australia's pension funds are throwing off their reputation as passive investors.

Indian Green Power Projects Pressured by Auction Tariff Caps

By Anindya Upadhyay

The viability of Indian wind and solar projects is being tested by tariff caps set during the auction process for power, which is leading to unsustainably low electricity prices, industry groups said.

In Australia, Coal Remains King Despite Climate Fears

By Jason Scott

For Ann Taylor, the idea that Australia's colossal coal industry should be tamed is risible.

Bloomberg Environment

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